

A DELL COMIC •
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MAY - JUNE

THE

CISCO KID



THE DISCOVERY OF GOLD AT ALDER GULCH, MONTANA, IN 1863, BROUGHT THE USUAL FLOOD OF WEALTH AND TROUBLE THAT GOES WITH A RAW, TOUGH BOOM TOWN.

MONTANA VIGILANTES

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THE BRAINS AND POWER BEHIND THE BANDITS WAS HENRY PLUMMER, A SLICK GUNMAN AND KILLER WHO POSED AS A PERSONABLE GENTLEMAN. HIS PRETENCE WAS SO SUCCESSFUL, THAT HE WAS ELECTED SHERIFF OF THE LAWLESS TERRITORY. AS SHERIFF, HIS WELL-ORGANIZED GANG, ROBBING AND KILLING, RODE ROUGHSHOD OVER THE DECENT CITIZENRY.



ONE OF PLUMMER'S GANG ABOUT TO BE EXECUTED FOR MURDER, DIVULGED THE NAME OF THE CHIEF OF THE OUTLAWS, THE RESPECTED HENRY PLUMMER. THE VIGILANTES QUICKLY SURROUNDED HIS ROOM, BROKE IN AND DISARMED HIM OF HIS DEADLY SIX-GUNS. WHEN FOUND GUILTY AND SENTENCED TO HANG, HIS CONFIDENT, ALOOF MANNER GAVE WAY TO GROVELING AND SCREAMING FOR MERCY. WITH HIS DEATH, THE POWER OF THE HOODLUMS WANED UNTIL THE LAST OF THE OUTLAWS FLED OR WERE HUNG. THUS, THE TERRITORY OF MONTANA WAS ABLE TO LIVE IN PEACE AT LAST.





AHA! CISCO GOT THE LETTER FROM THE BEAUTIFUL SEÑORITA, YES?

NO! FROM PADRE JULIO IN SAN TOMAS! HIS CHURCH HAS BEEN LOOTED---



SO HAVE MANY OTHER CHURCHES AND MISSIONS--- ALL OF THEM NOT TOO FAR SOUTH OF THE BORDER! SO HE BELIEVES---

PANCHO KNOW! CISCO CAN CATCH THE BANDITS?



IT WILL BE A PLEASURE TO GO AFTER THESE CROOKS!

BUT, CISCO, YOU ARE FORGETTING! YOU PROMISE PANCHO HE VISIT HIS MAMA IN CHIHUAHUA!



I DID NOT FORGET! YOU GO TO CHIHUAHUA! I GO TO SAN TOMAS! WE WILL MEET IN DEAD RUN A WEEK FROM TODAY!

PLEASE, CISCO! NOT DEAD RUN! THE LAST TIME PANCHO WAS THERE, HE ALMOST GET MARRIED!

SO YOU DID! WELL, STAY AWAY FROM SEÑORA O'TOOLE AND YOU WILL BE SAFE!



BUT WHY YOU CHOOSE DEAD RUN?

BECAUSE IT IS ON THE BORDER! AND THE RIO GRANDE MAY BE EASILY FORDED FOR SEVERAL MILES ON BOTH SIDES OF IT!



HOWEVER, IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO MEET ME THERE---

ENOUGH! PANCHO WILL BE THERE! HE WILL NOT LET CISCO GET INTO ANY TROUBLE UNLESS HE IS THERE TO HELP HIM!



DO NOT WORRY, PANCHO! I NEVER GET INTO TROUBLE WITHOUT YOUR HELP!

SANTO! WHEN PANCHO SEE CISCO NEXT TIME, HE MAKE CISCO EAT THOSE WORDS!



THREE DAYS LATER IN SAN TOMAS...

THEY WERE VERY VALUABLE STATUES, CISCO! THE SMALLER ONE WAS SOLID SILVER! THESE TWO WERE SET WITH GOLD AND MANY JEWELS!



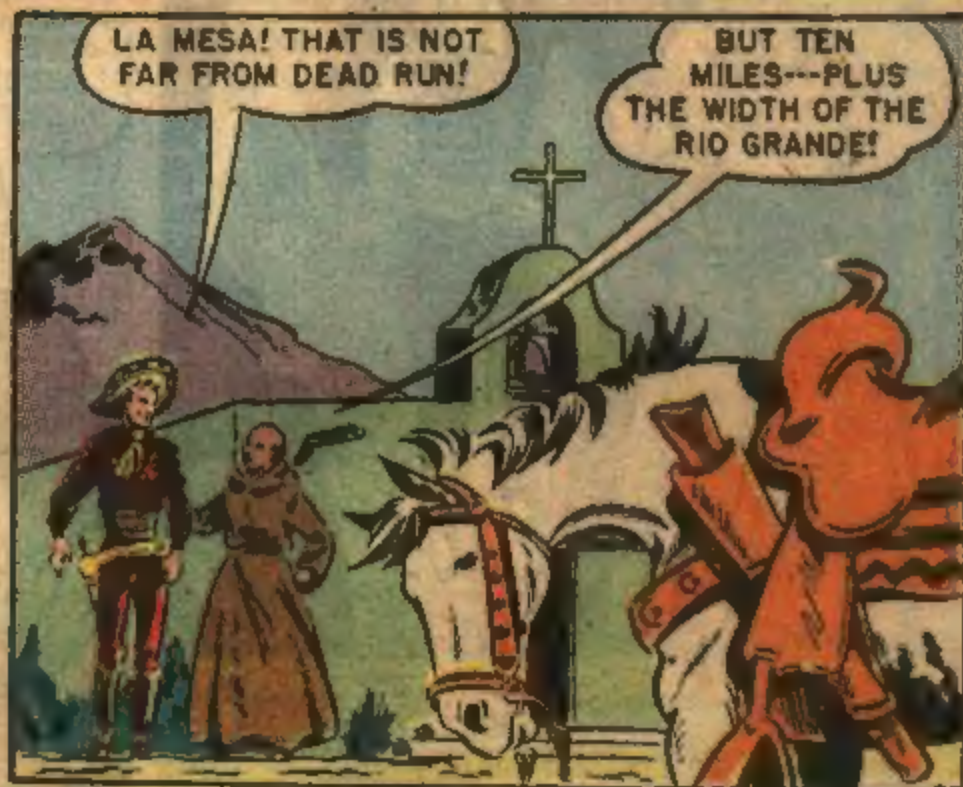
AND TOO BIG TO SMUGGLE ACROSS THE BORDER, PADRE JULIO!

OH! I DID NOT TELL YOU! YESTERDAY THESE LARGER STATUES WERE FOUND NEAR LA MESA---BATTERED AND STRIPPED OF GOLD AND GEMS!



LA MESA! THAT IS NOT FAR FROM DEAD RUN!

BUT TEN MILES---PLUS THE WIDTH OF THE RIO GRANDE!



QUITE A COINCIDENCE THAT I SHOULD HAVE CHOSEN DEAD RUN AS THE PLACE TO START THE HUNT FOR THESE BLASPHEMOUS SMUGGLERS!



WHERE THE CHURCH IS CONCERNED, MY SON, *NOTHING* IS COINCIDENTAL! GOD BE WITH YOU!

AND WITH YOU, PADRE!



THE NEXT DAY...

IN ADDITION TO THE IMAGES, THE THIEVES STOLE A SILVER-AND-TURQUOISE CRUCIFIX! IT WAS MY MOTHER'S!

PADRE LUIS, IF IT IS HUMANLY POSSIBLE, I SHALL RECOVER IT FOR YOU!

THEREBY GAINING THE EVERLASTING GRATITUDE OF AN OLD MAN!

PADRE LUIS!

JOSE! CHILDREN SHOULD NOT INTERRUPT!

I AM SORRY, PADRE! BUT THE SACRED STATUES HAVE BEEN FOUND NEAR BONITA!

ANOTHER TOWN NEAR DEAD RUN! NOW THERE IS NO DOUBT THE CROOKS ARE IN THAT NEIGHBORHOOD!

PERHAPS I SHALL HAVE GOOD NEWS FOR YOU VERY SOON, PADRE LUIS!

I HOPE SO! GOD WATCH OVER YOU!

THREE DAYS LATER...

ONLY FIVE MILES MORE,
PEPITO! PANCHO BET CISCO
BE PLENTY SURPRISED
TO SEE YOU!

BUENO!
TORTILLA!
TAMALE!
AW-WRRK!



SANTO! YOU CAN SAY
ONLY WORDS OF *FOOD!*
AND PANCHO-IS SO
HUNGRY, HE---



MADRE MIA!
SOMEBODY POT-
SHOOTS AT US!

GLAM!



AW-WRRK!

QUIET, PEPITO! PANCHO
WANT TO SEE WHERE
THE GUNFIGHTER HIDES!



N-NOBODY IN SIGHT!
N-NOW PANCHO MORE
SCARED THAN IF HE
SEE S-SOMEBODY!

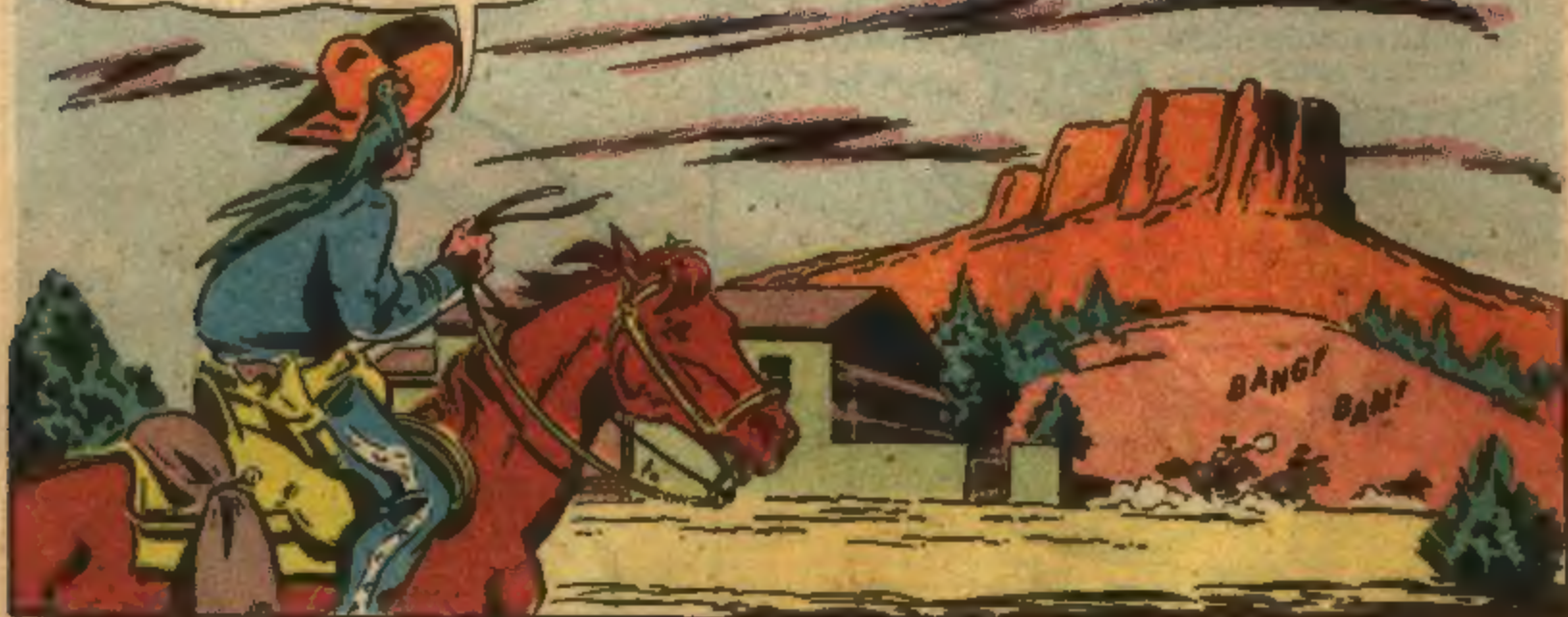


BANG!

FOR GOSHNESS'
SAKE! UP, LOCO! WE
SIT HERE, YOU BE HORSE-
HIDE, PEPITO A STEW, AND
PANCHO *VERY* DEAD!



HO! HO! PANCHO MAKE BIG MISTAKE! SOMEBODY ELSE IS TARGET FOR THESE BULLETS!



BUENAS DIAS, SEÑOR!
YOU NEED SOME
HELP, MAYBE?

WHAT THE--!
WHO ARE YOU?



PANCHO IS PANCHO, SEÑOR!
HE HEAR GUNSHOTS! HE
COME SPLICKETY-LIT TO
SEE WHAT IS UP! YOU ARE
THE RANCHERO?

NO! DAVE
CRAIG, THE
FOREMAN!
SOMEBODY
JUST MURDERED
THE BOSS!



AI-EE! PANCHO WILL
GET CISCO PRONTO!
HE KNOW ALL ABOUT
CATCHING THE KILLER!

CISCO?---THE
CISCO KID?
DO YOU KNOW
HIM?



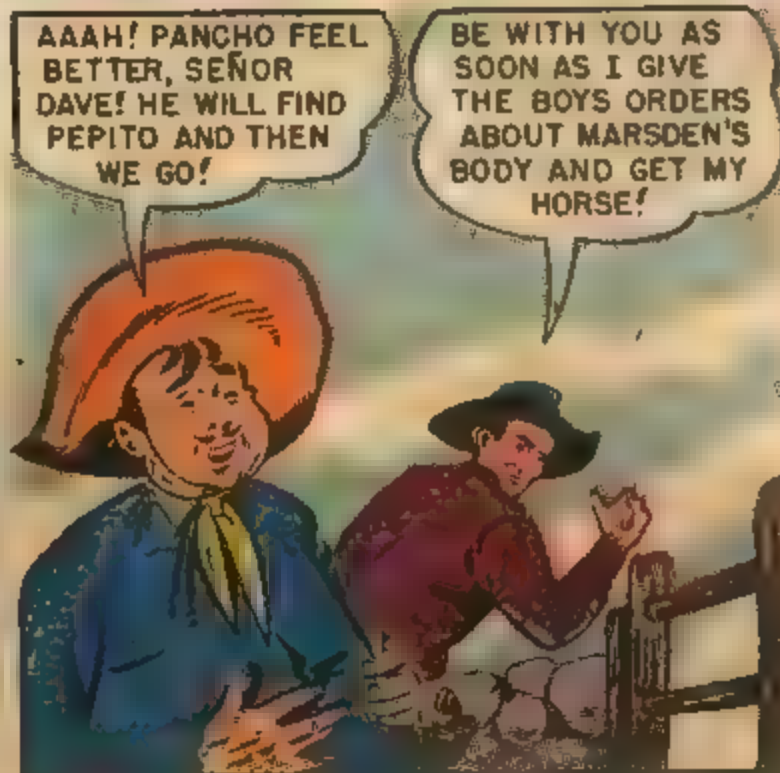
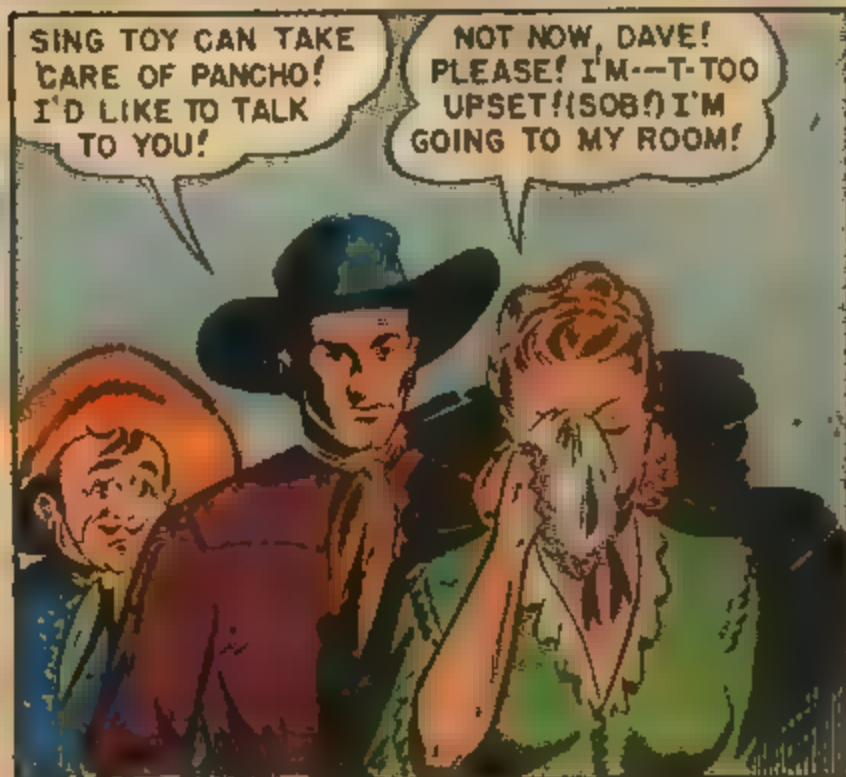
BUT OF COURSE! CISCO AND
PANCHO---WHO IS ME---WE
ARE LIKE PODS IN THE
PEA, SEÑOR! EVEN NOW,
CISCO WAITS IN DEAD
RUN FOR PANCHO!

WHAT LUCK!
I---OH, HERE
COME THE
BOYS! MIND
WAITING A FEW
MINUTES?



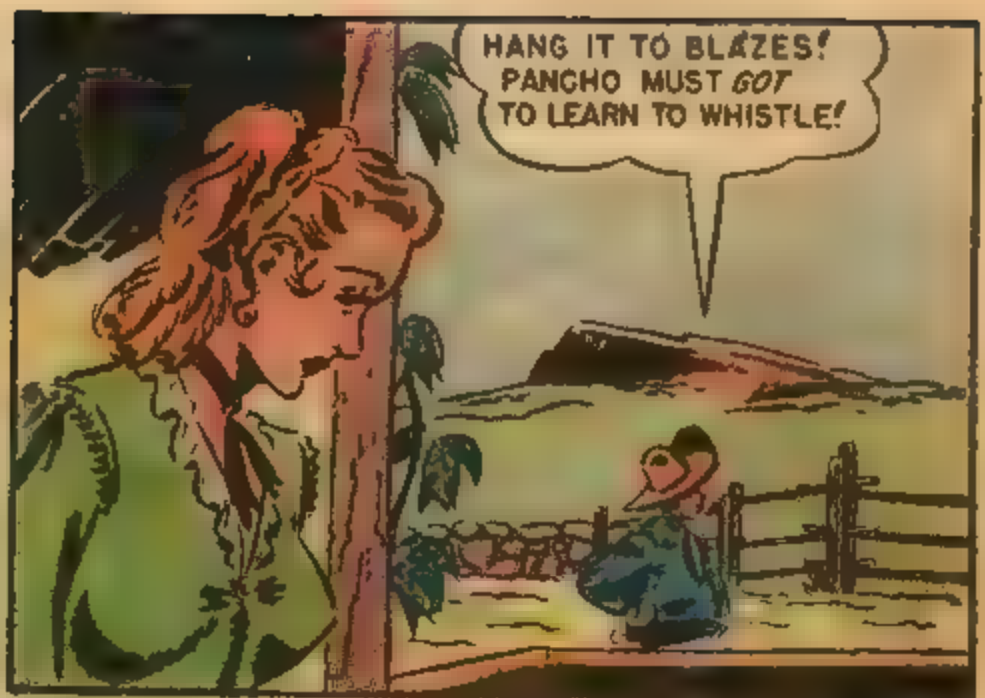








TWEET!



HANG IT TO BLAZES!
PANGHO MUST GOT
TO LEARN TO WHISTLE!



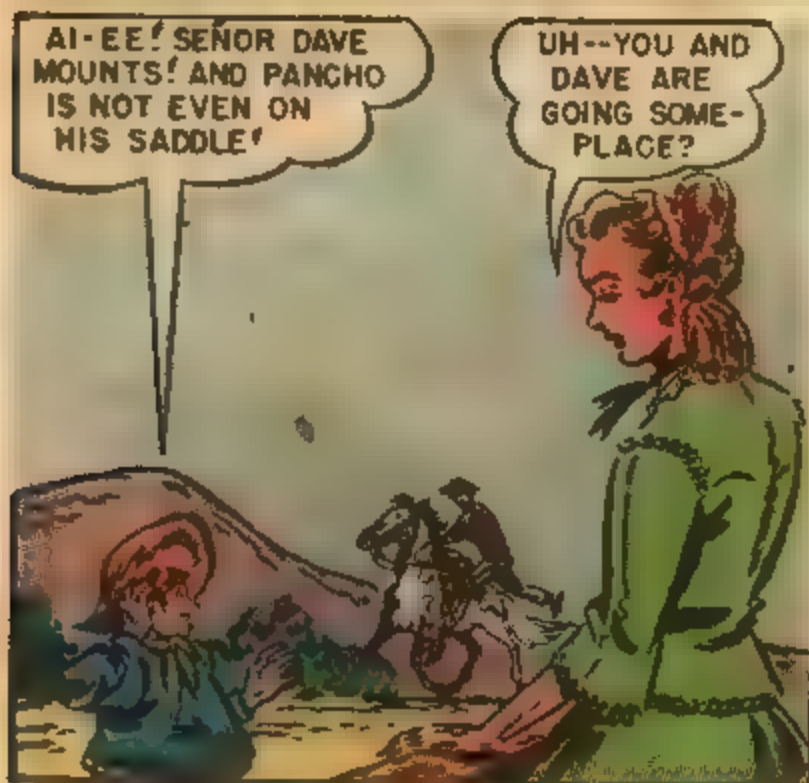
PEP-I-YO!
PEP---

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR
YOUR PARROT, MISTER PANGHO,
HE'S OVER THERE! HE WAS
UP VISITING ME A MINUTE
AGO!



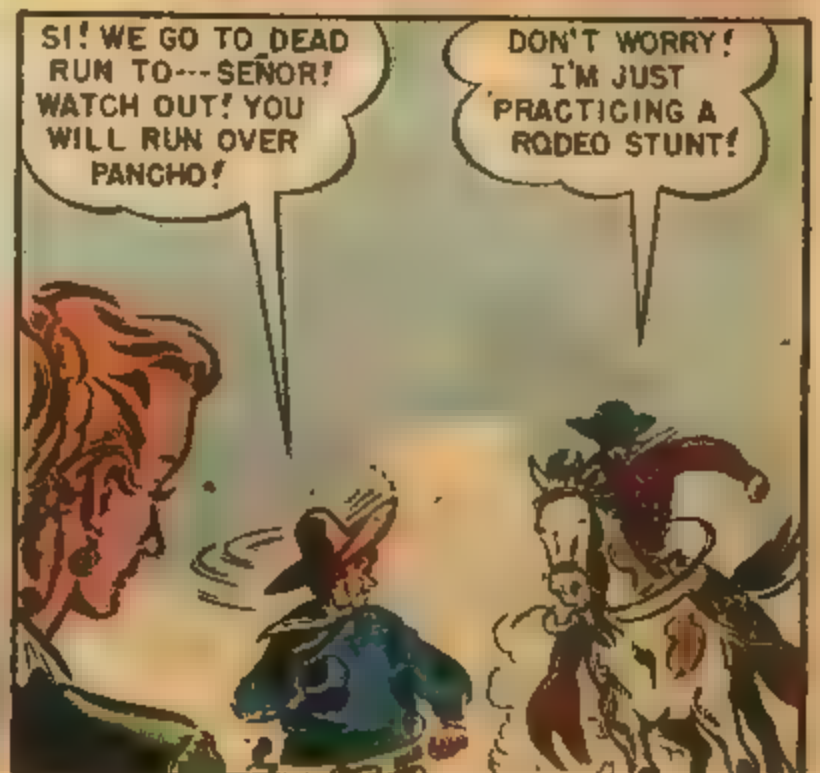
FOR GOSHNESS' SAKE!
PEPITO THINK HE IS A
BACKBARE CABALLERO!

AWW-WRRK!



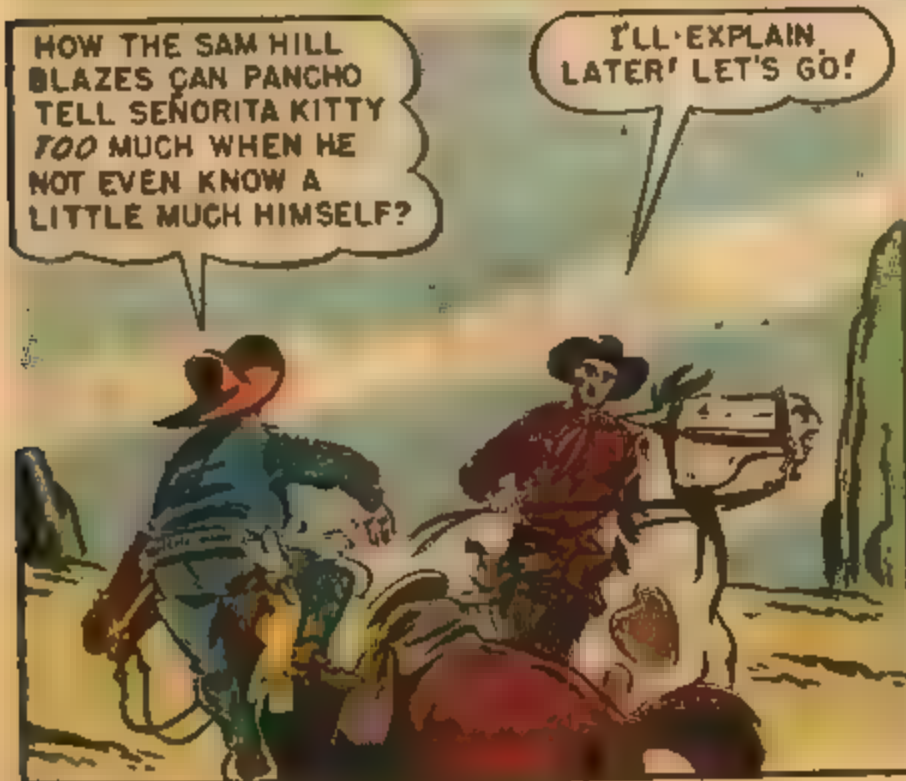
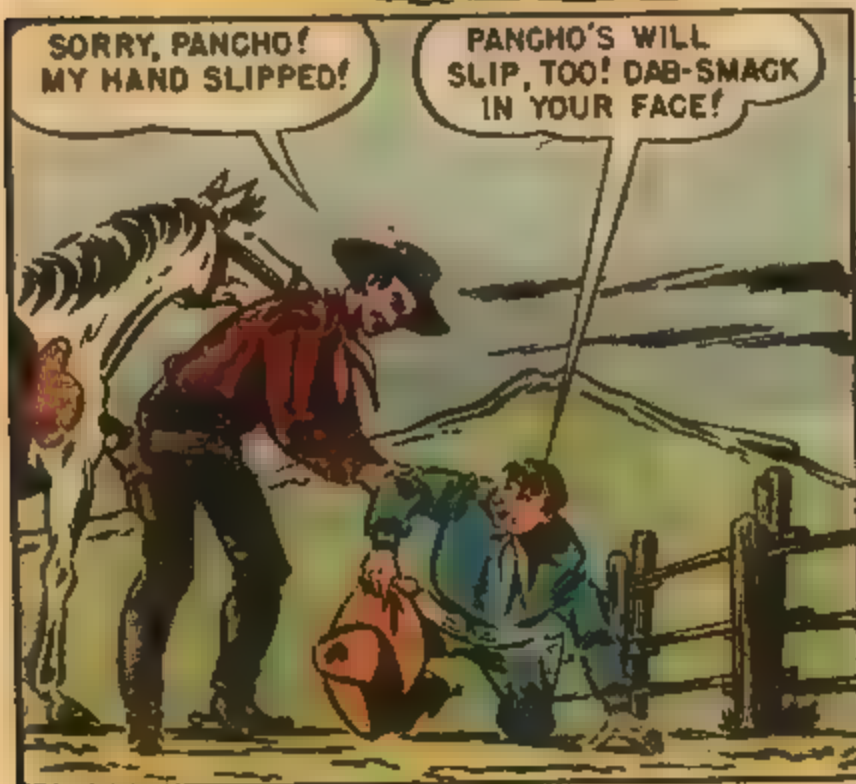
AI-EE! SEÑOR DAVE
MOUNTS! AND PANGHO
IS NOT EVEN ON
HIS SADDLE!

UH--YOU AND
DAVE ARE
GOING SOME-
PLACE?



SI! WE GO TO DEAD
RUN TO---SEÑOR!
WATCH OUT! YOU
WILL RUN OVER
PANGHO!

DON'T WORRY!
I'M JUST
PRACTICING A
RODEO STUNT!



LATER...

I WISH I COULD
GIVE YOU A LEAD,
CISCO, BUT...

HOLD IT, SEÑOR
SHERIFF! SOMEONE
IS OPENING YOUR
OFFICE DOOR!



PANCHO! I WONDERED IF
YOU WOULD GET HERE TO —
SANTO! WHERE DID YOU
GET THAT PARROT?

FROM MY MAMA! HIS
NAME IS PEPITO!
AND HE IS VERY
SMART...LISTEN!



SAY SOMETHING, PEPITO!
HURRY! CISCO IS
WAITING!

HE IS FRIGHTENED!
TELL ME! HOW DID YOU
HAPPEN TO COME IN
HERE LOOKING FOR ME?



AHA! PANCHITO IS SMART, TOO!
HE THINK, AND THINK AND --- THEN
HE SEE DIABLO TIED UP OUT
FRONT! SO WHERE ELSE COULD
BE CISCO?



THIS IS SEÑOR DAVE CRAIG
FROM EL RANCHO SIERRA!
SEÑOR DAVE, THIS HOMBRE IS
MI AMIGO --- THE CISCO KID!

I AM GLAD TO
KNOW YOU, SEÑOR!

SAME HERE! I'M HOPING WE
CAN WORK TOGETHER!







SI! A PRECIOUS STONE! LOOK!



A DIAMOND!

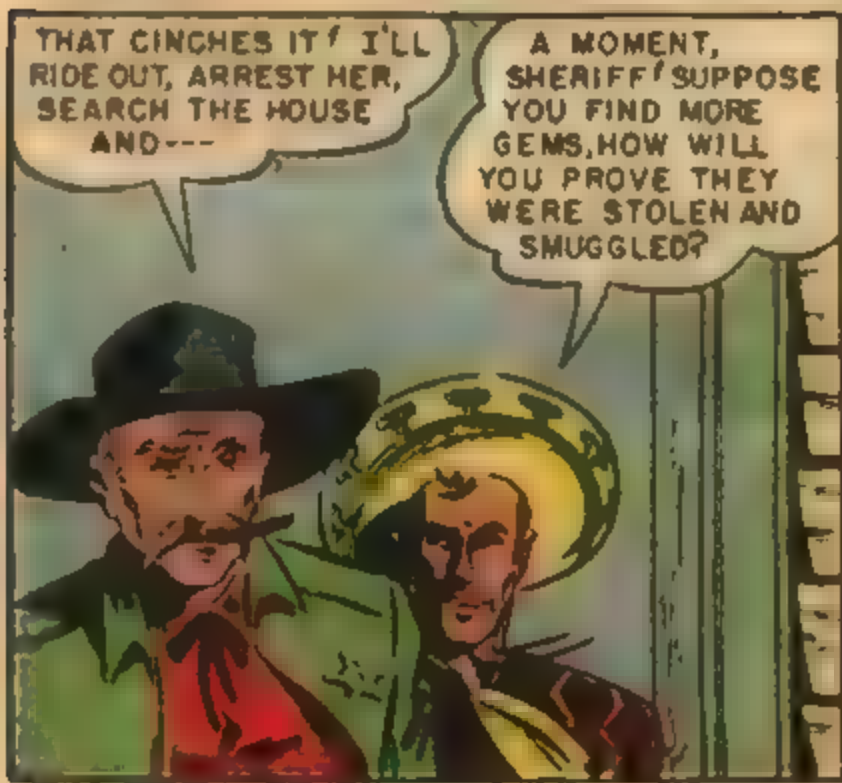
NOW PANCHO KNOW WHY HE DO NOT TALK BEFORE! HIS MOUTH WAS FULL!



WE DIDN'T STOP ANYPLACE ON THE WAY IN! HE MUST HAVE PICKED IT UP AT THE RANCH!



IN THE SEÑORITA'S ROOM! SHE TELL PANCHO THAT PEPITO CALL ON HER!



THAT CINCHES IT! I'LL RIDE OUT, ARREST HER, SEARCH THE HOUSE AND---

A MOMENT, SHERIFF! SUPPOSE YOU FIND MORE GEMS, HOW WILL YOU PROVE THEY WERE STOLEN AND SMUGGLED?



UH-- GOT A BETTER IDEA?

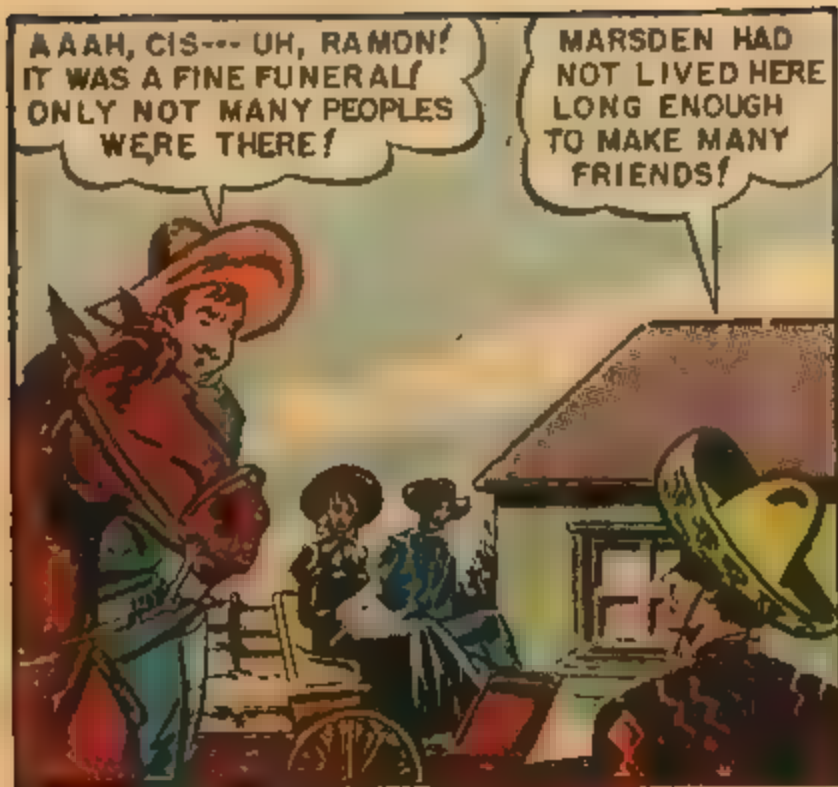
SI! PANCHO AND SEÑOR DAVE WILL RETURN TO THE RANCHO. TOMORROW, I WILL RIDE OUT AND---



THE NEXT NOON.

DAVE! WHAT A HANDSOME COWBOY! DO YOU KNOW HIM?

YES! I HIRED HIM WHILE YOU WERE DRESSING FOR THE FUNERAL. HIS NAME'S RAMON GARCIA!



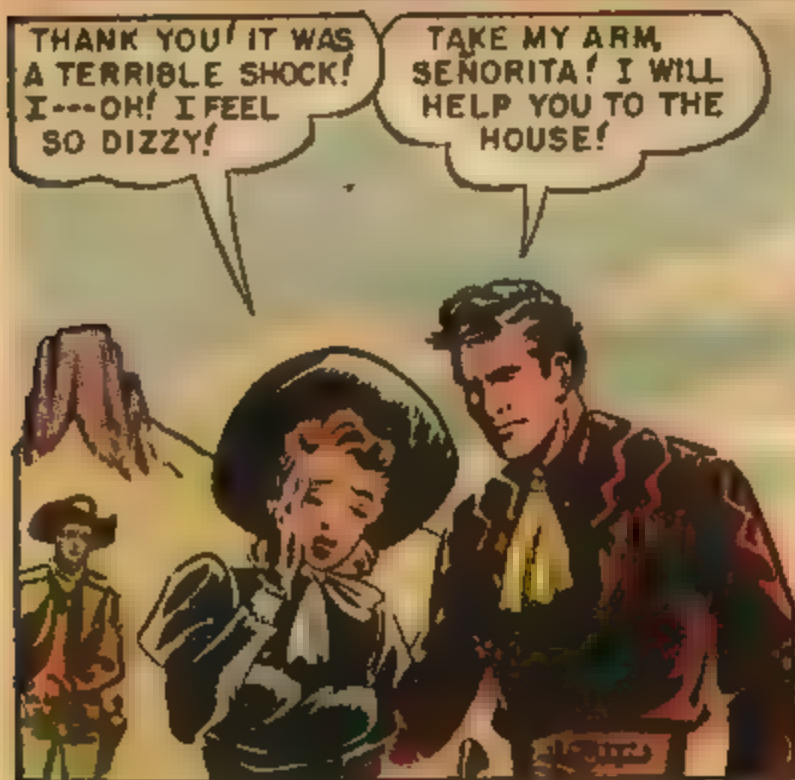
AAAH, CIS--- UH, RAMON!
IT WAS A FINE FUNERAL!
ONLY NOT MANY PEOPLES
WERE THERE!

MARSDEN HAD
NOT LIVED HERE
LONG ENOUGH
TO MAKE MANY
FRIENDS!



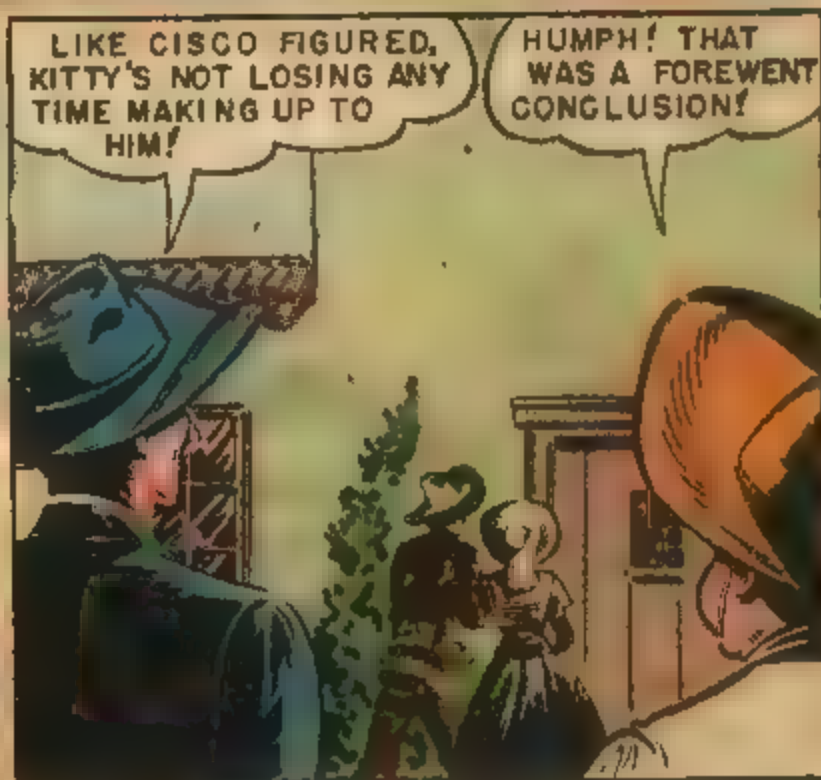
RAMON! THIS IS
MISS MARSDEN, NOW
THE OWNER OF RANCHO
SIERRA!

BUENAS DIAS,
SEÑORITA! PLEASE
ACCEPT MY SYM-
PATHY IN YOUR
RECENT LOSS!



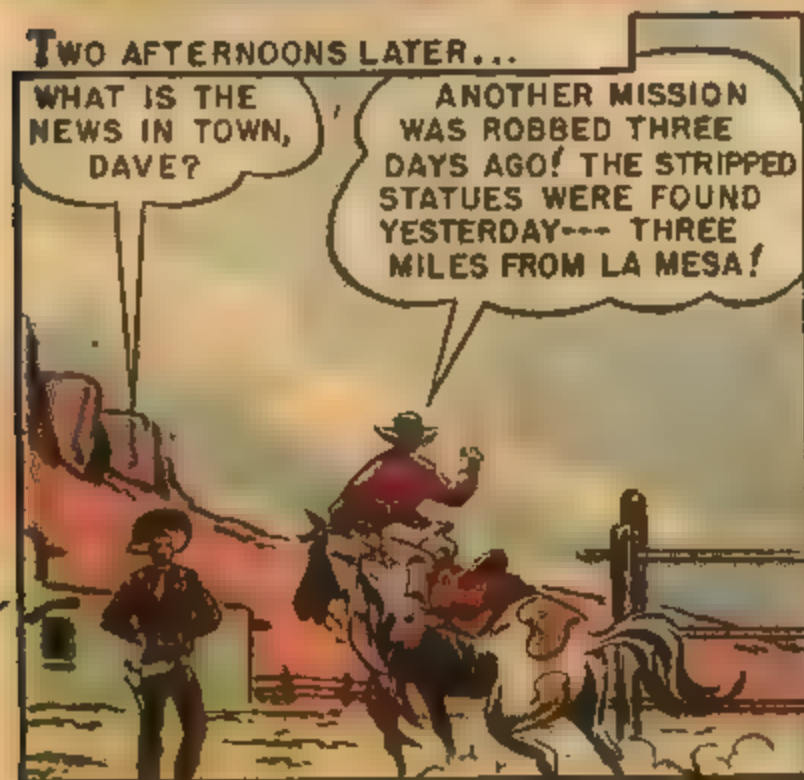
THANK YOU! IT WAS
A TERRIBLE SHOCK!
I---OH! I FEEL
SO DIZZY!

TAKE MY ARM,
SEÑORITA! I WILL
HELP YOU TO THE
HOUSE!



LIKE CISCO FIGURED,
KITTY'S NOT LOSING ANY
TIME MAKING UP TO
HIM!

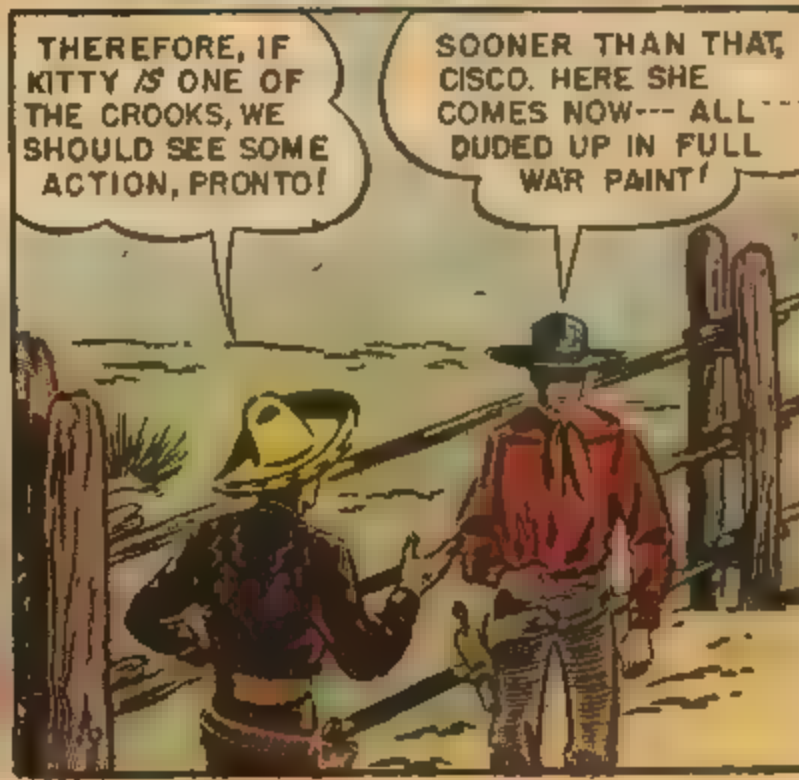
HUMPH! THAT
WAS A FOREWENT
CONCLUSION!



TWO AFTERNOONS LATER...

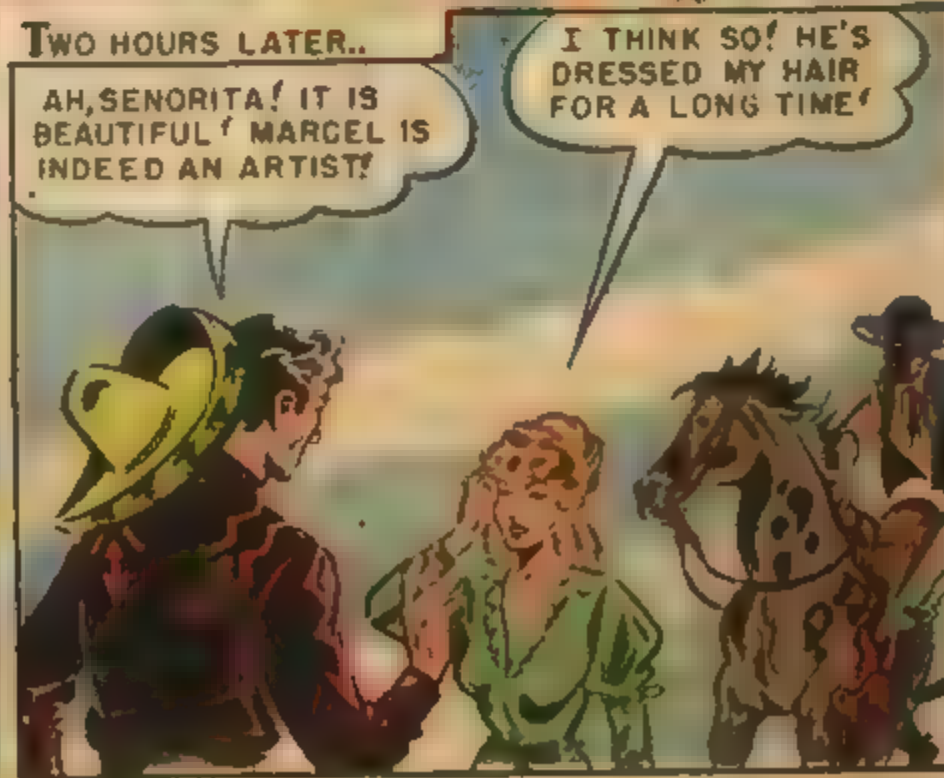
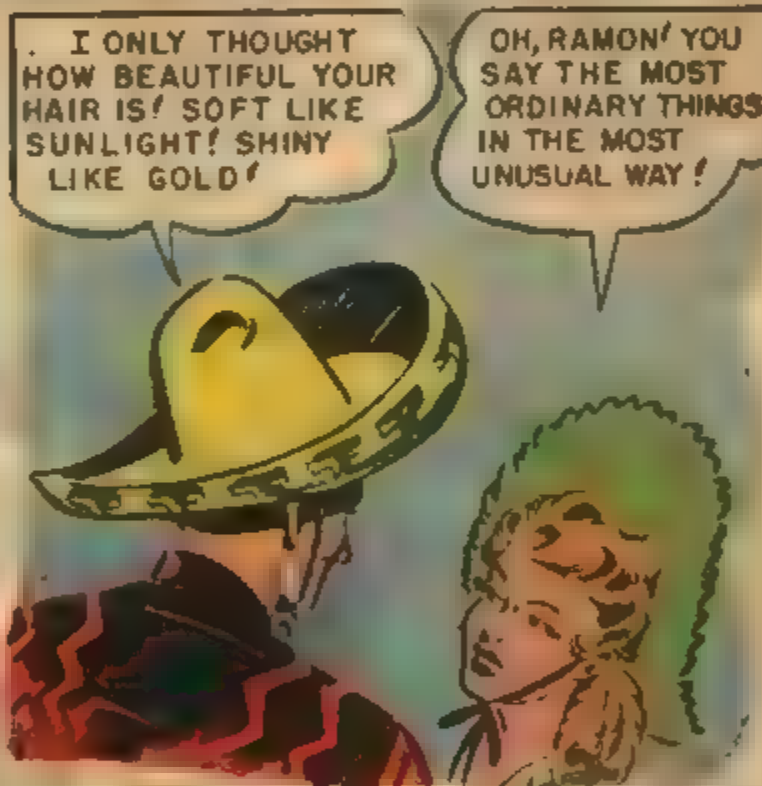
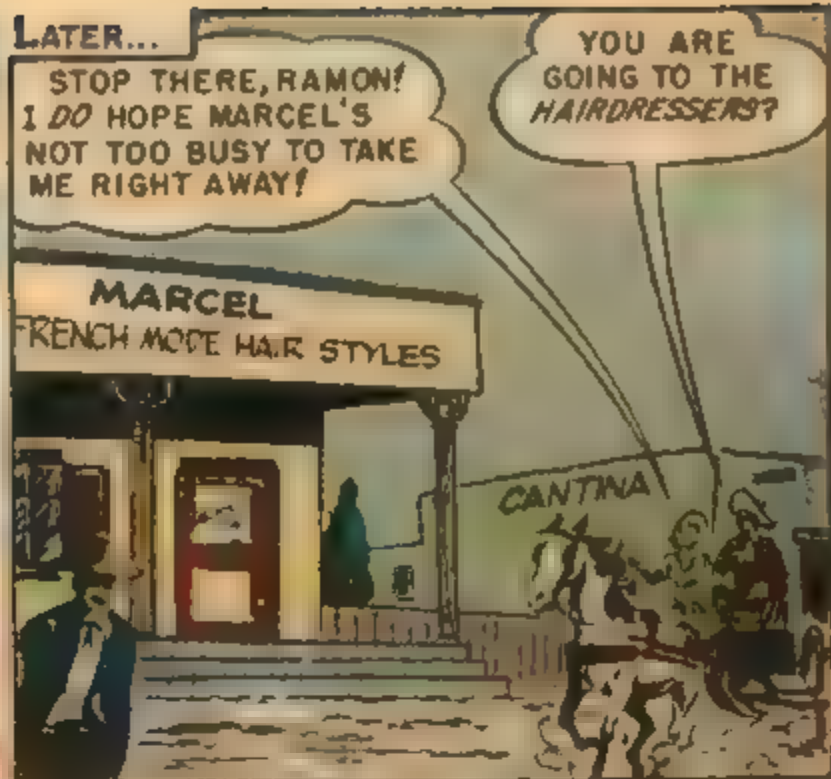
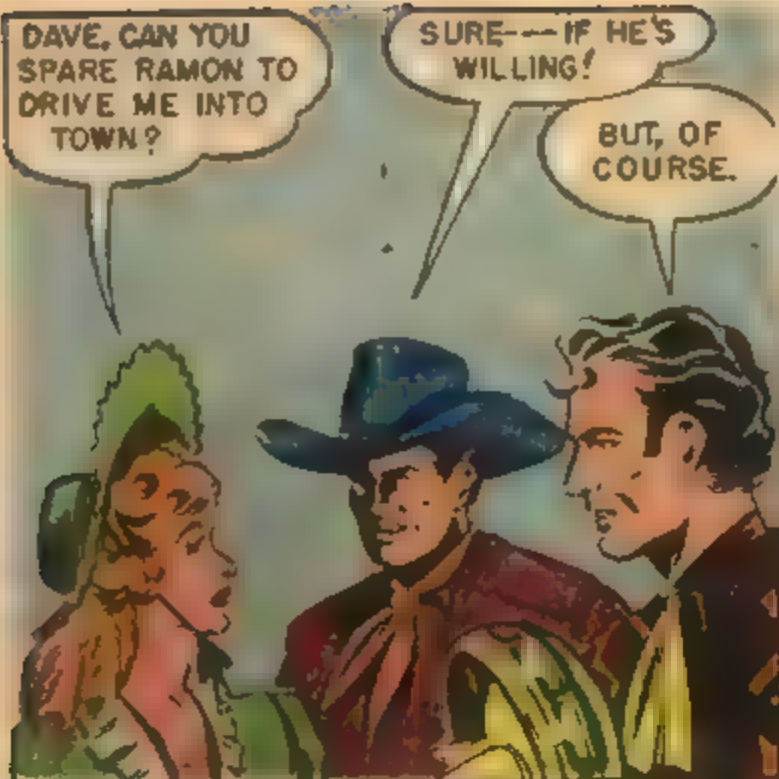
WHAT IS THE
NEWS IN TOWN,
DAVE?

ANOTHER MISSION
WAS ROBBED THREE
DAYS AGO! THE STRIPPED
STATUES WERE FOUND
YESTERDAY--- THREE
MILES FROM LA MESA!



THEREFORE, IF
KITTY IS ONE OF
THE CROOKS, WE
SHOULD SEE SOME
ACTION, PRONTO!

SOONER THAN THAT,
CISCO. HERE SHE
COMES NOW--- ALL---
DUDED UP IN FULL
WAR PAINT!





I'D BETTER CLEAR
OUT BEFORE ONE OF THESE
BULLETS CONNECTS!

Z-ZING!



THE DANGER IS PAST, SEÑORITA!
THE BUSHWHACKER IS RIDING AWAY,
SEE?



THE CHIEF! OF ALL
THE DIRTY TRICKS!
WAIT TILL I SEE HIM!



THAT EVENING...

CISCO! SHE JUST
HEADED FOR THE BARN!



BUENO! KEEP BACK!
IF SHE SEES US, SHE
WILL NOT LEAVE!

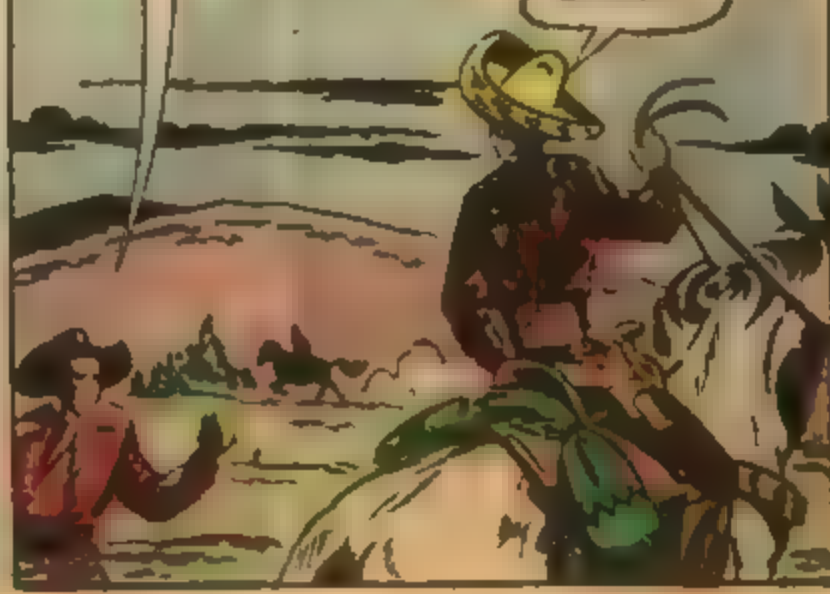
MADRE MIA! PANGHO
CANNOT MAKE TAIL
OR HEAD OUT OF
THIS!

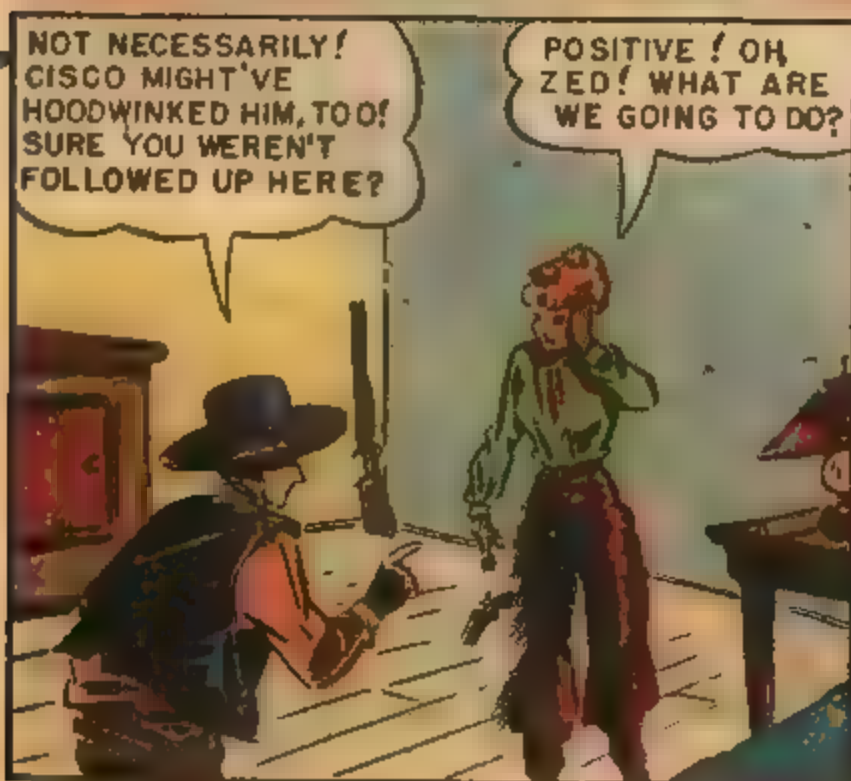
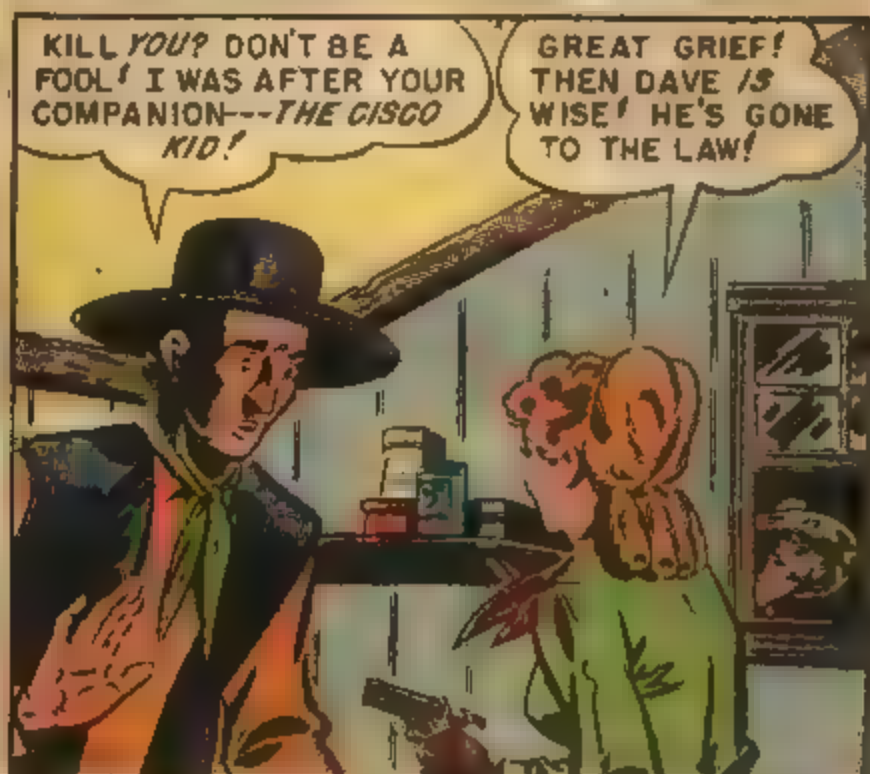
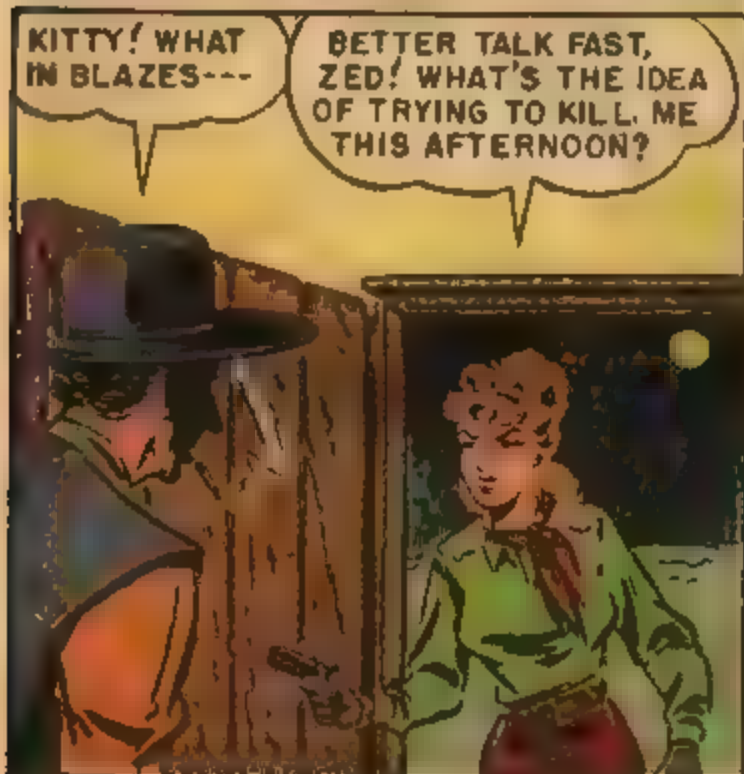
NEITHER CAN I---
YET! BUT I AM
SURE KITTY RECOG-
NIZED THE DRY-
GULCHER! AND I
THINK SHE WILL GO
TO SEE HIM TONIGHT!



SHE'S RIDING OUT,
CISCO! BETTER GET
A MOVE ON!

DO NOT WORRY!
HER HORSE CAN-
NOT OUTRUN DIABLO!
NOR MOVE SO QUIETLY
EITHER!





TEN MINUTES LATER.

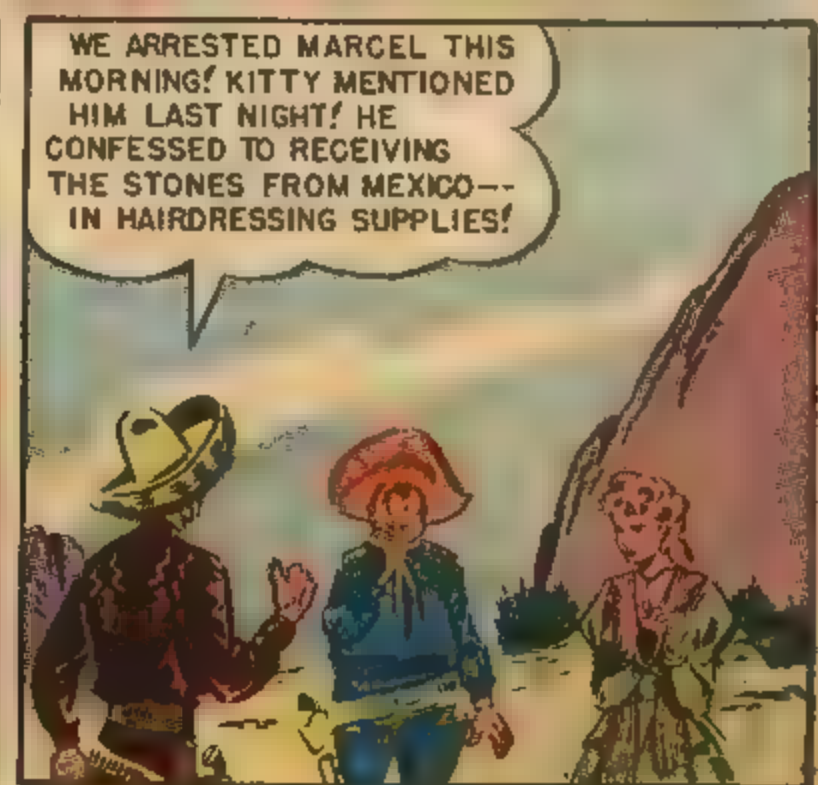
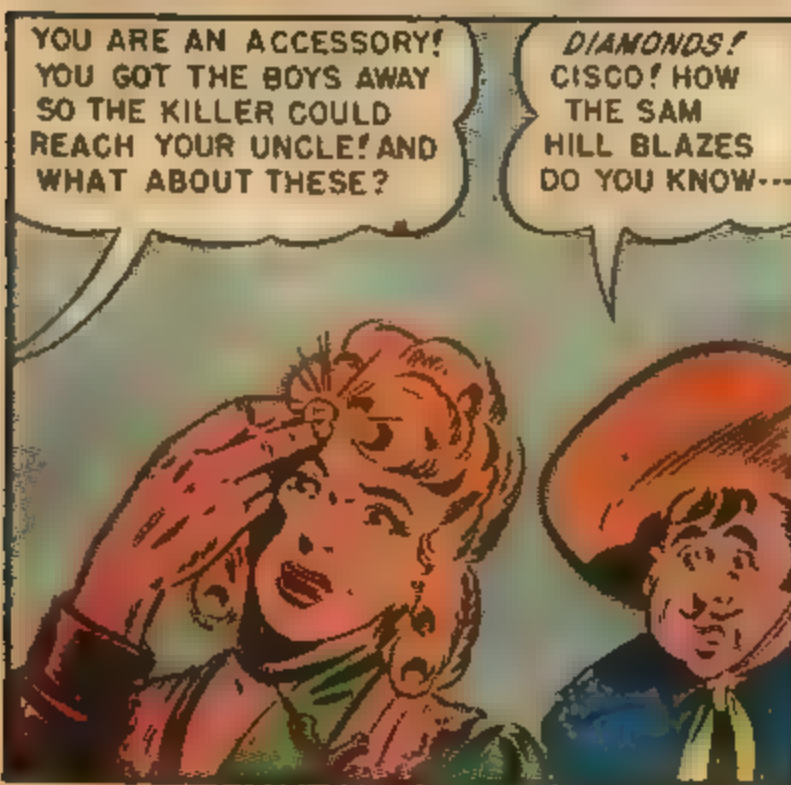
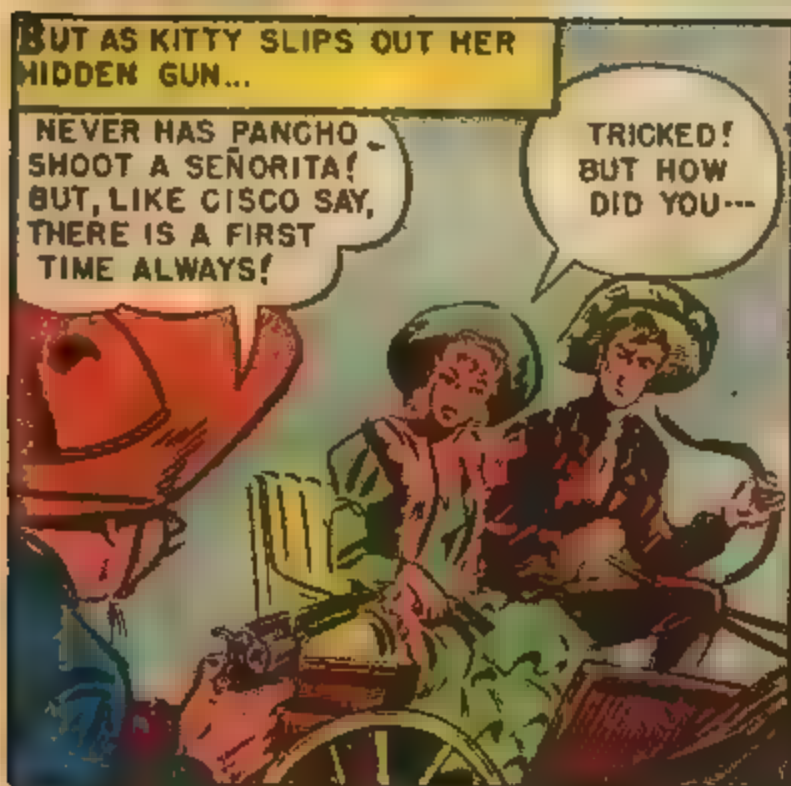
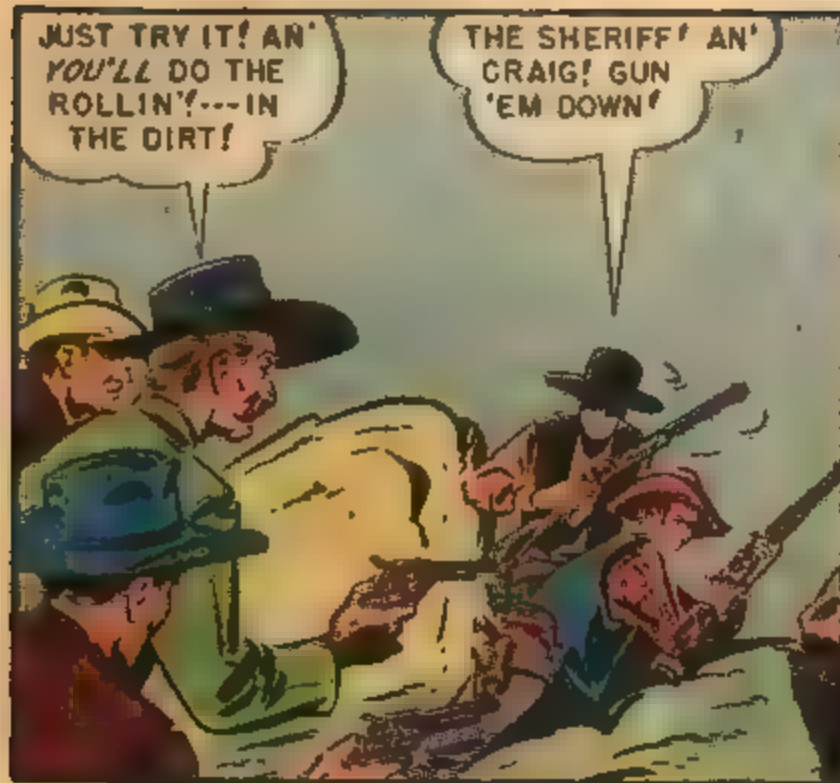


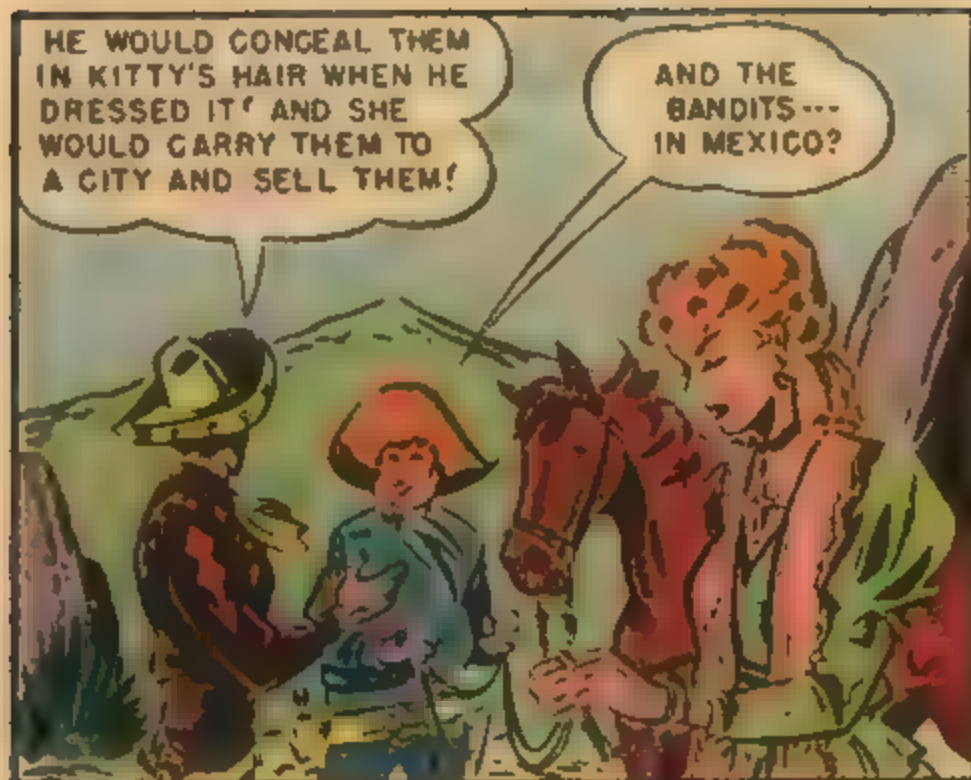
THE NEXT AFTERNOON...



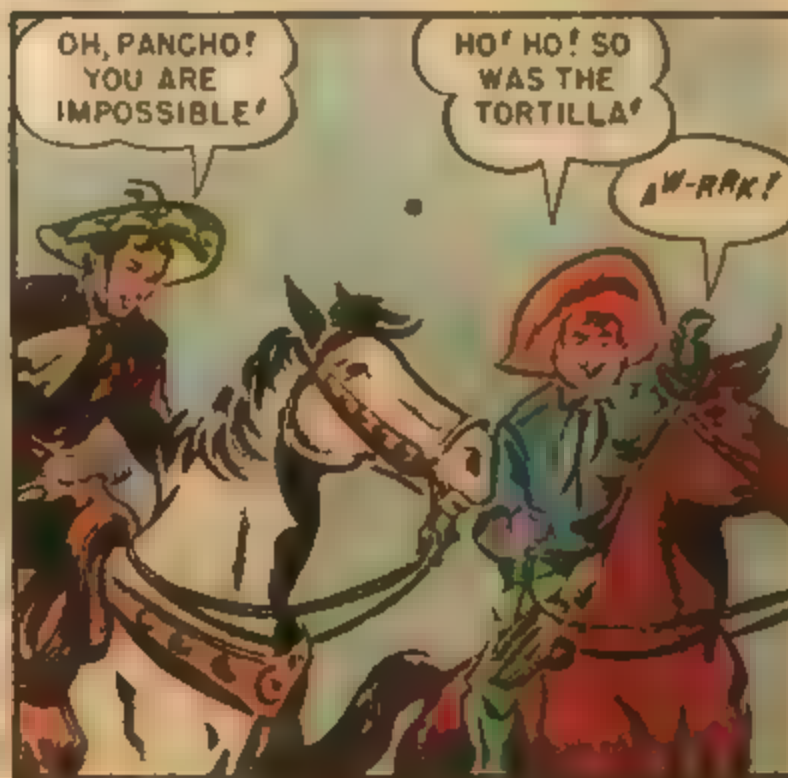
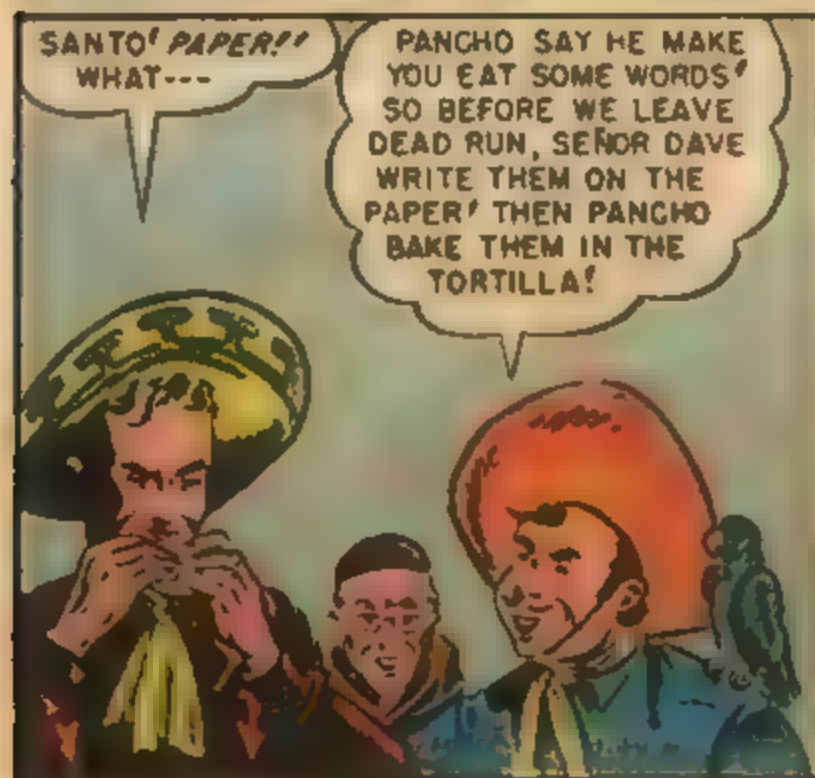
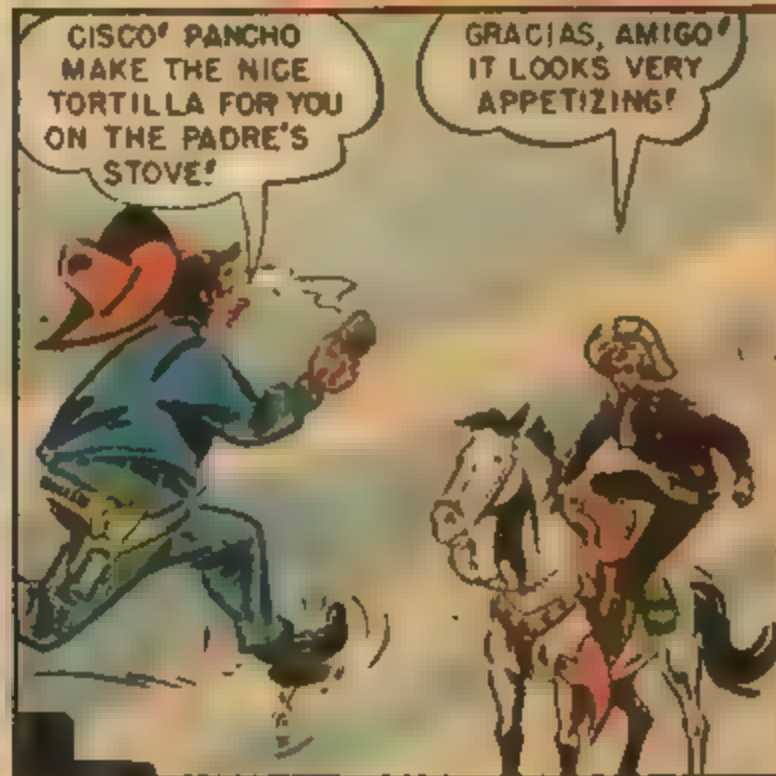
HALF AN HOUR LATER







A FEW DAYS LATER ..



THE CISCO

KID

IN
A SMART TRICK

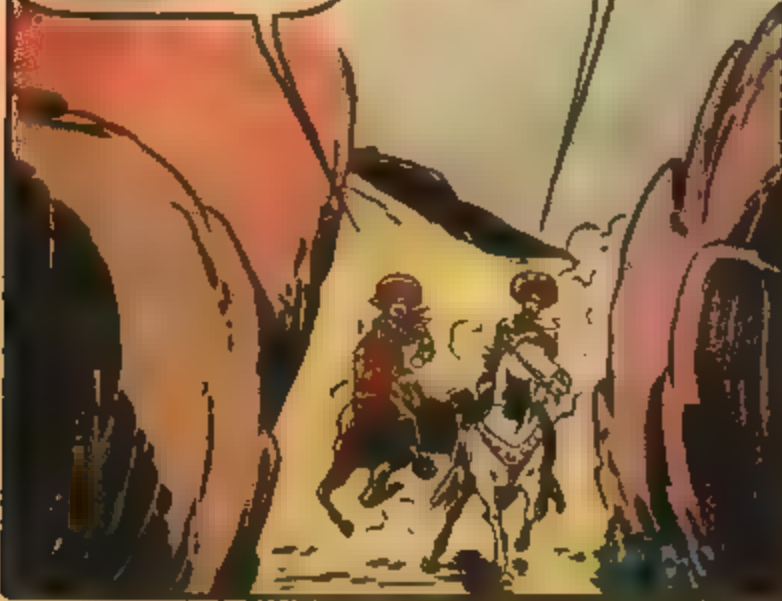
EEYAWN! PANTHO
IS TIRED, CISCO! WHEN
WE WILL GET TO THE
PLACE WE ARE WENTING?

BEFORE NOON! AND, AS
I HAVE TOLD YOU A
DOZEN TIMES, THE NAME
OF THE TOWN IS
GRUBSTAKE!

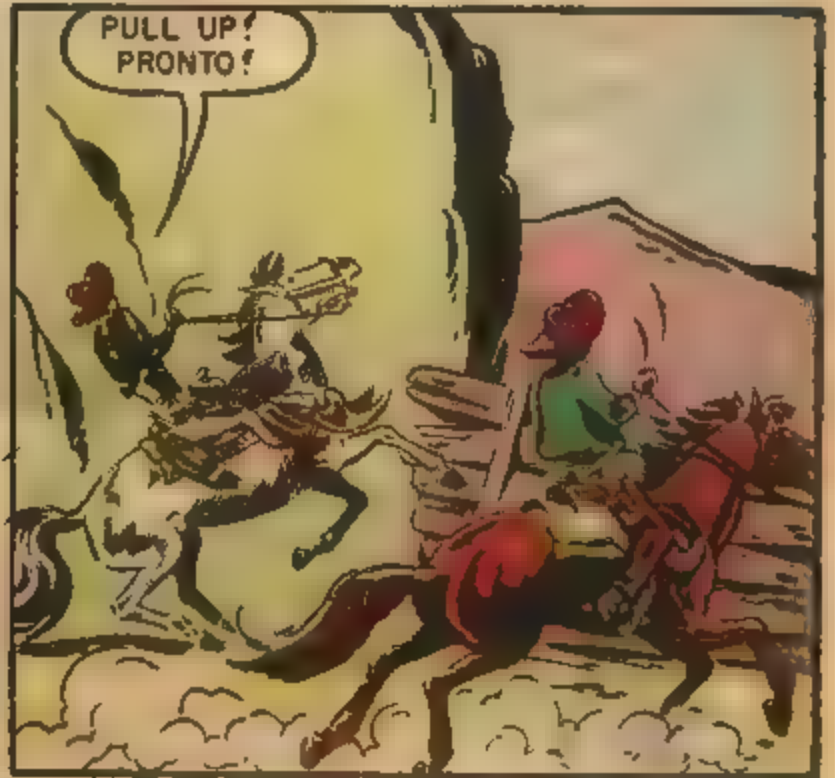


AI-EE! PANTHO DID NOT
WANT YOU TO SAY THAT
NAME! IT MAKE HIM
REMEMBER HE IS
HUNGRY!

AS IF YOU
EVER
FORGOT!

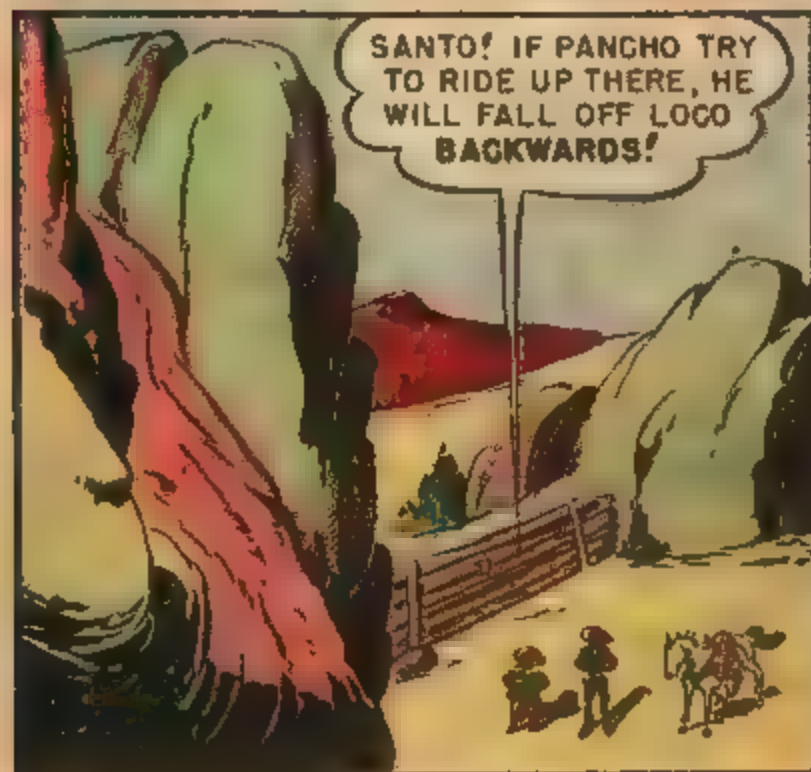
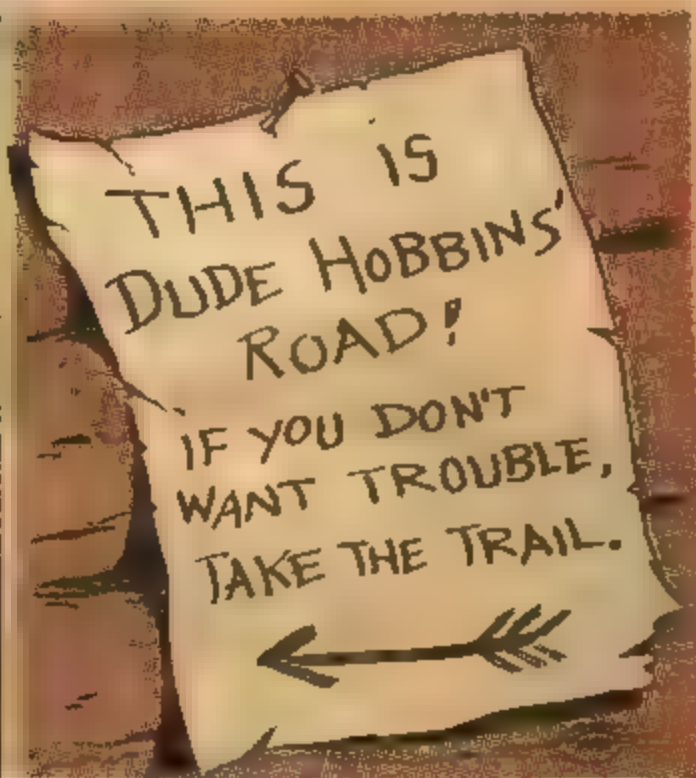
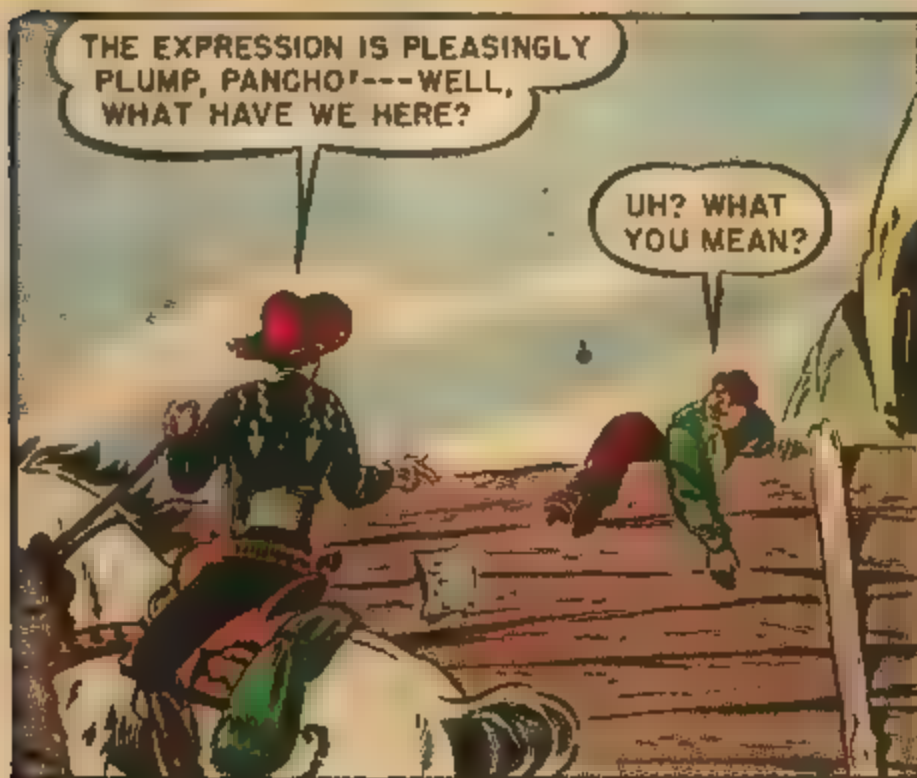


PULL UP!
PRONTO!



BUT THE WARNING COMES TOO LATE...





MADRE MIA! PANTO JUST THINK WHAT HE SAYS! AND HE DO NOT LIKE IT!

AND I DO NOT LIKE THIS BARRICADING OF A PUBLIC ROAD! COME! GIVE ME A HAND!



I CAN'T TACKLE 'EM SINGLE-HANDED IN THE OPEN! BUT IF I LET 'EM GO ON THROUGH, THE BOSS'LL MAKE WOLF MEAT OUT O' ME!



HUMPH! EITHER THOSE BIRDS NEVER HEARD O' THE BOSS, OR THEY CAN'T READ!



THE SHORT CUT OUGHTA GET ME TO HANGIN' ROCK AHEAD O' THEM, THOUGH!



ON SECOND THOUGHTS, CISCO, THAT IS NOT A VERY ROUGH TRAIL!

THEN YOU TAKE IT! I WILL RIDE THIS WAY AND SATISFY MY CURIOSITY.



CISCO! WAIT!
PANCHO NOT LET
YOU GET SHOOTED
ALL BY YOURSELFS!



A LITTLE LATER...

THAT'S MAKIN' IT
BY THE SKIN O'
MY TEETH!



A BUSHGULCHER?
WHERE.?

ABOVE US' UP ON
THE ROCK! QUICK!
FOLLOW ME!



AI-EE! THAT ONE
PRETTY NEARLY
ALMOST HAVE PANCHO'S
NAME ON IT!



STAY THERE, PANCHO!
I WILL SETTLE THAT
HOMBRE'S HASH!

SANTO! EVEN
IN THE GUN-
FIGHTING, YOU
MUST SPEAK
ABOUT FOOD!



HANG IT! THEY'RE
UNDER THE ROCK! I'D
BETTER CLEAR OUT
BEFORE THEY...



YOU ARE GOING
SOMEPLACE,
SEÑOR?

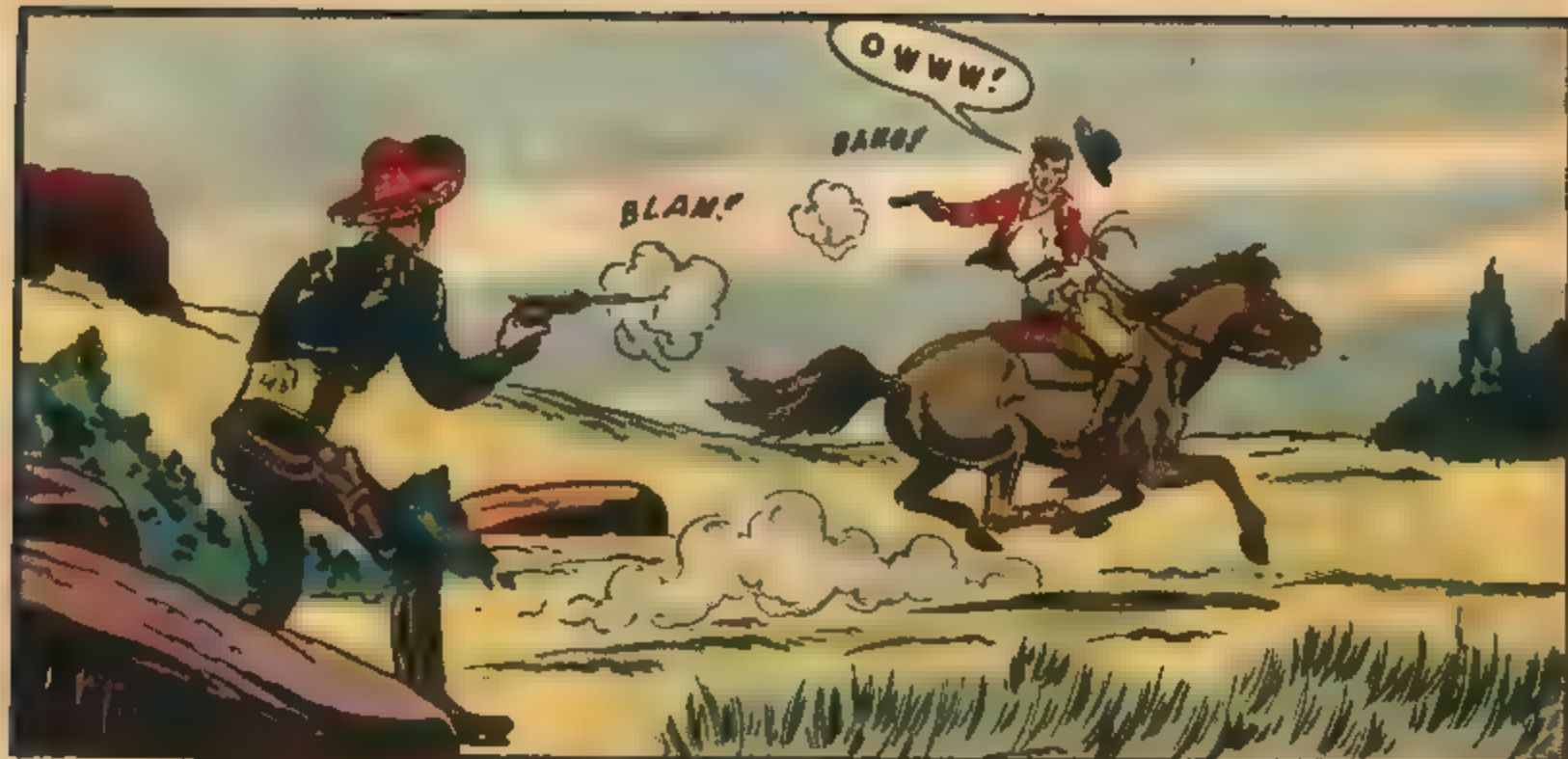


YEAH! AN' I'M
IN A HURRY---



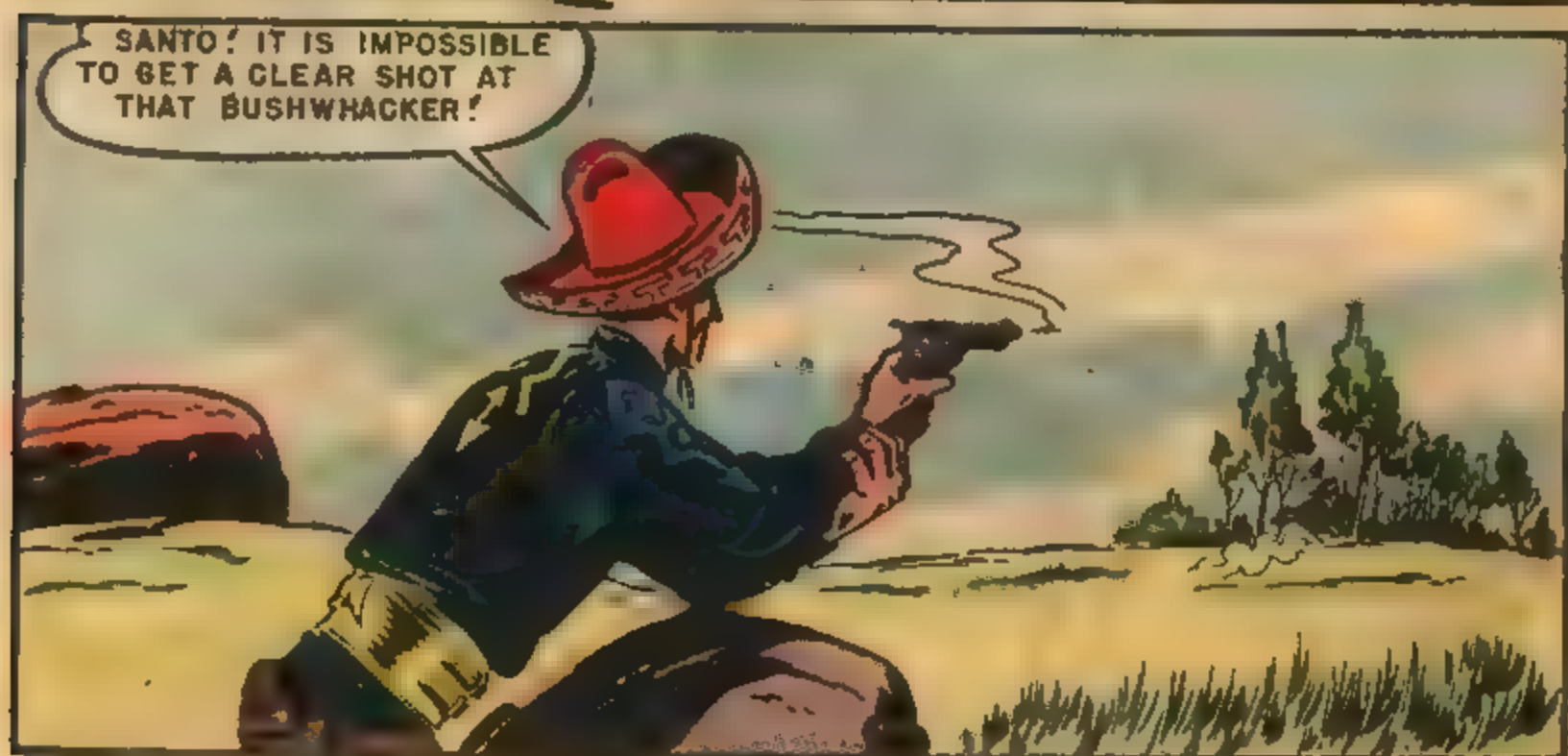
---AN' YOU'RE NOT
STOPPIN' ME!





HIT IN THE SHOULDER, THE DRYGULCHER
SWAYS PRECARIOUSLY IN THE SADDLE...

...BUT WITH A DESPERATE EFFORT, RIGHTS
HIMSELF AND HEADS HIS HORSE INTO
A THICKET!





CISCO! YOU ARE OKAY? (PUFF! PUFF!)

SI! BUT ANGRY! THE DRYGULCHER GOT AWAY!



SO YOU HAVE NO MORE CURIOSITY ABOUT THE SEÑOR DUDE HOBBSINS?

MORE THAN EVER! BUT I HAVE AN IDEA SHERIFF WOODLEY WILL BE ABLE TO SATISFY SOME OF IT!



AND PANCHO HOPE HE NEVER COME BACK! WHAT DO YOU STARE AT?

THAT TOWN! IT MUST BE GRUBSTAKE! BY CUTTING ACROSS THE RANGE, WE SHOULD REACH IT IN LESS THAN AN HOUR!



HE NOT SATISFY PANCHO! ONLY THE TAMALES OR THE FRIJOLES DO THAT!

OH, PANCHO! DO YOU EVER THINK OF ANYTHING BUT EATING?

SI! BUT PANCHO DO NOT REMEMBER WHAT!



NOON...

--SO WHEN DUDE BOUGHT
MILE-HIGH RANCH AN'
LEARNED NO RIGHT-O-WAY HAD
EVER BEEN GRANTED FOR THAT
ROAD, HE BLOCKED IT OFF! KEEPS
EVERYBODY OUT AT GUN'S POINT---
EVEN THE LAW!



HE CLAIMED HE DIDN'T WANT
FOLKS TRAIPSIN' ACROSS HIS RANGE!
BUT IT'S MY IDEA HE WAS AFRAID
THEY'D SEE TOO MUCH!



LIKE RUSTLED
STOCK, EH?

YES! AN' WANTED MEN!
MAYBE EVEN LOOT!
'CAUSE IF HE AN' HIS
GUNSLINGERS AREN'T
BEHIND THE HOLDUPS
PLAGUIN' THIS COUNTY,
I'M HAYWIRE!



I'VE ONLY GOT ONE SLIM SCRAP
OF EVIDENCE! DUDE ALWAYS
SAYS "SUGAR" FOR MONEY!
SO DOES THE BANDIT
LEADER!

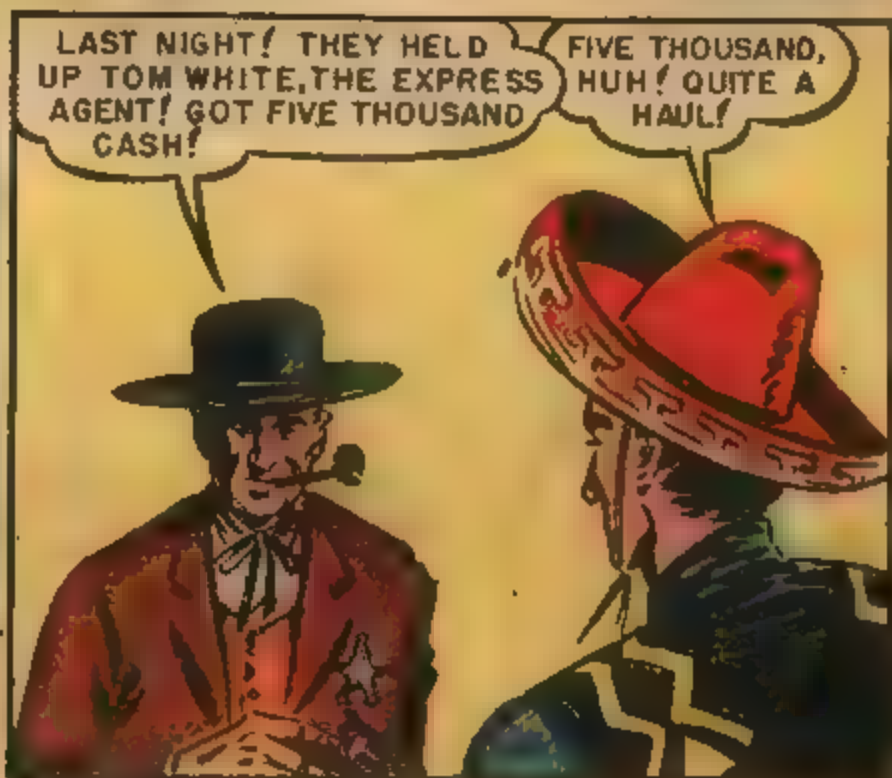


THAT COULD BE COINCIDENCE...
WHEN DID THE LAST HOLDUP
TAKE PLACE?



LAST NIGHT! THEY HELD
UP TOM WHITE, THE EXPRESS
AGENT! GOT FIVE THOUSAND
CASH!

FIVE THOUSAND,
HUH! QUITE A
HAUL!



ONLY LAST NIGHT, EH? TELL ME! DID THE LEADER TAKE PART IN IT?

RECKON SO? WHITE SAID THE BOSS TOLD HIS MEN TO GRAB THE SUGAR AN' VAMOOSE!



CISCO! WHERE'RE YOU GOIN'?

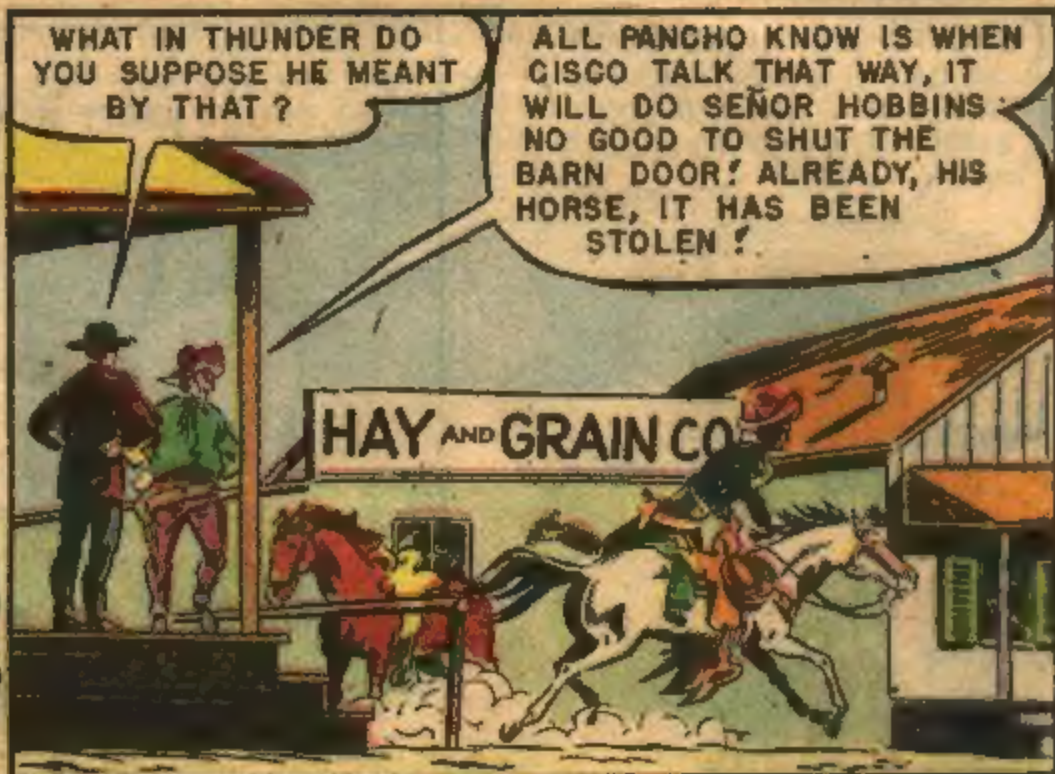
TO LOOK OVER THE SCENE OF THE CRIME! COME WITH ME IF YOU WISH!



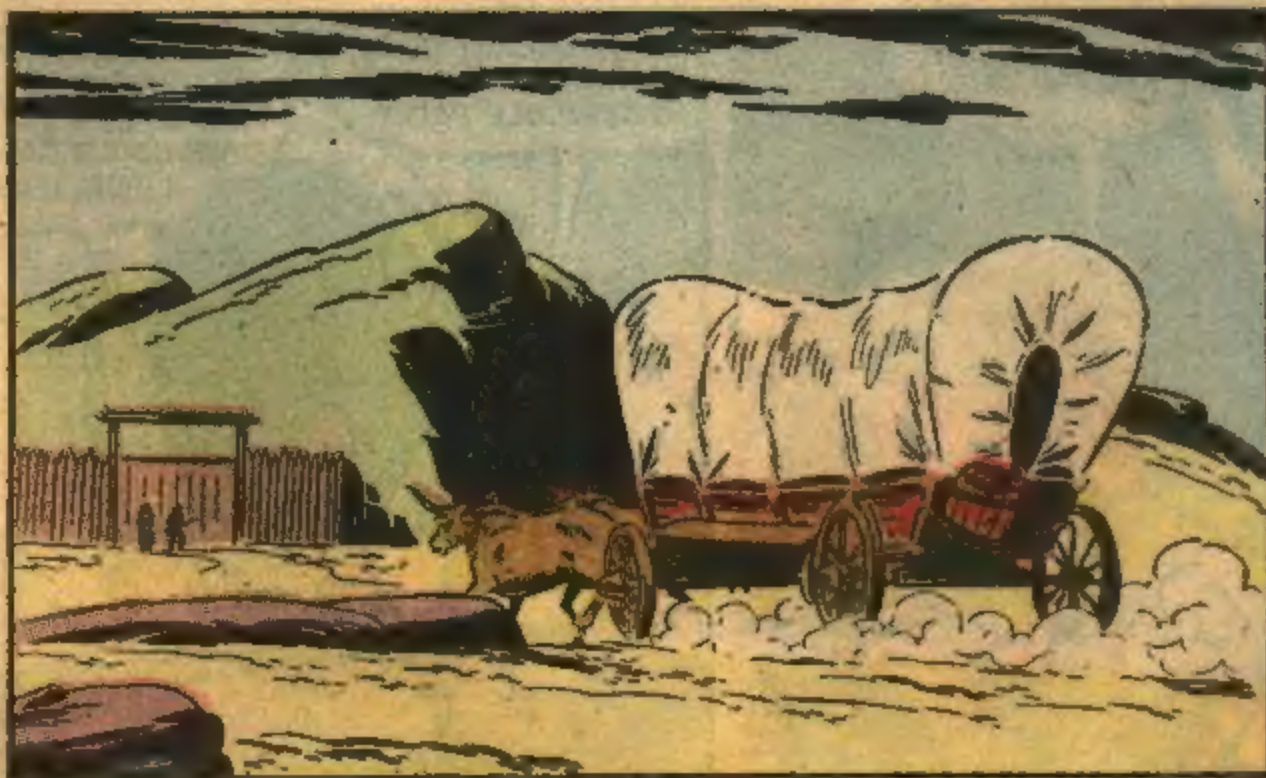
IF I AM LUCKY, WE MAY BE ABLE TO TRICK DUDE HOBBS INTO CONVICTING HIMSELF!

WHAT IN THUNDER DO YOU SUPPOSE HE MEANT BY THAT?

ALL PANCHO KNOW IS WHEN CISCO TALK THAT WAY, IT WILL DO SEÑOR HOBBS NO GOOD TO SHUT THE BARN DOOR! ALREADY, HIS HORSE, IT HAS BEEN STOLEN!



LATE THAT AFTERNOON, A COVERED WAGON ROLLS ALONG THE ROAD TO MILE-HIGH RANCH...



MA



UH, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT! THE BOSS IS DEAD AGAINST LETTIN' STRANGERS---

OWWW!

MORT! WE'VE GOTTA LET 'EM IN! IT AIN'T HUMAN TO---

HOLD EVERYTHING! HERE COMES DUDE! HE'LL HANDLE IT!

WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE?

THIS HOMBRE'S GOT A SICK WIFE, BOSS! HE WANTS TO CAMP HERE OVERNIGHT!

OOOHH!

I DO NOT DARE TO DRIVE FARTHER! POOR MEHITABEL---

OKAY! OPEN THE GATE, BOYS! RECKON A PAIR OF NESTERS CAN'T DO ANY HARM!

AS THE WAGON ROLLS THROUGH THE GATE, THE CANVAS TOP SUDDENLY DROPS...

FALL OUT O' THOSE SADDLES AN' REACH, HOMBRES! YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST FOR ROBBIN' THE EXPRESS COMPANY LAST NIGHT!

YOU'RE LOCO, SHERIFF! NONE OF US HAVE SET FOOT OFF THE PLACE FOR THREE DAYS!



REALIZING HIS SLIP, DUDE GOES FOR HIS GUNS BUT...



LATER...



BUT HE IS CONFUSED! HE LOOK AT THE SCENE OF CRIME AND HE NOT SEE ANY BOOTPRINTS!



IT WAS SURE A SMART TRICK!

BUT OF COURSE! WE ARE VERY SMART HOMBRES!

OH, PANCHO!

